

MISSISSIPPI WIRELESS COMMUNICATION COMMISSION

June 1, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Place: MDOT 1st floor auditorium

Meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm by Vice Chairman Chris Epps.

Commission Members Present:

MS Department of Public Safety	George Phillips
MS Department of Corrections	Chris Epps
MS Association of Fire Chiefs	Tom Lariviere
MS Department of Environmental Quality	Clovis Reed
MS Department of Information Technology Services	David Litchliter
MS Department of Transportation	Willie Huff
MS Municipal League	Nick Wilson (for Gene McGee)
MS Sheriffs' Association	James Newman
MS Supervisors Association	Joel Yelverton
SafeCity Initiative	Mark McCreery
MS Department of Health	Brian Amy

Advisory Members Present:

Representative Tyrone Ellis	Senator Tom King
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Chairman George Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm. Chairman Phillips asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting. Clovis Reed made the motion, and it was seconded by Brian Amy. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Joel Yelverton reported for the Rules Committee. The Department of Health made a request for approval for the annual renewal of their cellular service contract. There was a short discussion about the **\$147,000.00** contract. The Rules Committee approved the contract.

Clovis Reed reported for the Cellular RFP Committee. Confidentiality agreements were signed, and a draft of the RFP was distributed to Commission members for review. Comments on the draft should be sent to Clovis Reed by June 15th. The Commission was asked to be prepared to approve the draft for advertising at the next meeting. Mr. Reed explained that the contract would be for five years with two two-year extensions and that there would be wording in the contract that would allow the Commission to terminate the contract for failure to perform.

Chairman George Phillips arrived at 1:50 pm. He updated the Commission on the \$17 million awarded to the Commission to start the project. He also explained that the Governor and Senator Thad Cochran were working on additional funding.

There was no report from the Integrating Needs Committee. Chairman Phillips stated that Ed Worthington, chair of the Committee, had retired. He will be replaced when the new Homeland Security Director is announced.

Chris Epps reported for the RFP Committee. He asked Mr. Litchliter to give the report. Mr. Litchliter stated that proposals are due June 5th. He anticipates receiving two or three proposals. There is still work to be done in order to prepare the review team. The bids will remain sealed until the evaluation criteria have been finalized. The Horne Group will hold the sealed bids.

Chairman Phillips appointed the members of the Evaluation Committee: Willie Huff, Gary Ladd, Tom Lariviere, Bill Buffington and Tommy Moffett. Don Loper from MDPS will be a technical advisor to the Committee, and ITS will serve in its normal capacity for evaluating technology proposals and awarding and negotiating contracts.

Willie Huff reported for the Interoperability Committee. There was significant discussion regarding the underutilization of the ACU 1000s purchased for each county with homeland security funds. There will be a demonstration and training session in Jackson on June 27-29 for the vendor of the ACU 1000s to demonstrate the equipment's functionality. Chairman Phillips stated that this equipment should be used to provide limited interoperability within and between counties as an interim solution. It was stated that a standard setup needed to be established in order to use the devices effectively in an emergency.

Joel Yelverton stated that it was not his goal to have all the counties on the state system. Chairman Phillips stated that the goal was to give the counties the option to join the state system when their current systems need to be replaced. Representative Ellis stated that Chairman Phillips is trying to make the state system more cost effective. He explained that the legislators are about saving the state money. There was a discussion about interoperability in the lower three counties for this hurricane season. Mark McCreery discussed that it is important not to forget about the other counties in the state.

There was no report of old or new business.

The next meeting will be July 6, 2006, in the MDOT Auditorium.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.